<u>**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**</u>

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-22.   (Cancelled)

23.   (Currently Amended) A system that facilitates generating a dynamic output in a state machine, comprising:

an input component that receives communication, the communication is related to at least one indicator <u>that receives updated status/ event information from the communication</u>; and

a logic function component that ~~utilizes~~ <u>defines a logical function using at least one function block and links the logical function with</u> the indicator to <u>define the behavior of an output and</u> selectively provide an output signal <u>according to the logic function and the at least one indicator</u>.

24.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, the output signal is transmitted to at least one of a process, a machine, a backplane, a bus and a network.

25.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 23, further comprising a memory component that stores data that is operatively coupled to at least one of the ~~network interface~~ <u>input</u> component, the logic function component and the output component.

26.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, further comprising a processing component that executes instructions within the memory that is operatively coupled to at least one of the input component~~, the network interface component,~~ the output component and the memory component.

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27.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, the processor updates the indicator according to the communication.

28.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, further comprising a closed loop component that receives information from the input component that is operatively coupled to the output component to provide feedback control.

29.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 23, further comprising a configuration tool that creates an association between the logic function <u>component</u> and the at least one indicator.

30.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, the configuration tool further comprising an intelligence component employed to automatically determine an association between the logic function <u>component</u> and the at least one indicator.

31.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, the configuration tool is one of a computer, a workstation, a handheld PC, a tablet PC, a personal digital assistant and a cell phone.

32.   (Cancelled)

33.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[32]] <u>1</u>, the function block is one of a Boolean operator, a flip-flop, a counter, a timer and an analog function.

34.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, the indicator is at least one of a message connection health indicator, an I/O error indicator, a run/idle indicator, a network error indicator, an I/O point fault indicator, a hardware input indicator, a hardware output indicator, an I/O data indicator, and an output device status indicator.

35.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, the input component further comprises a message buffer component employed to store at least one message and is

operatively coupled to at least one of the input component and the logic function component.

36.   (Currently Amended) A method to provide a variable output related to received information, comprising:

accepting an input <u>comprising at least one indicator that indicates updated status/ event information</u>;

transmitting the input to a logic function, the logic function contains at least one function block;

associating the ~~input~~ <u>at least one indicator</u> with the at least one function block; and

providing an output based at least in part upon the ~~input~~ <u>at least one indicator</u> and the logic function.

37.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, further comprising selecting a function block based at least in part upon the ~~input~~ <u>indicator</u> received.

38.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, further comprising associating the ~~input~~ <u>at least one indicator</u> with at least one function block *via* a configuration component.

39.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising receiving the output from the logic function and transmitting the output *via* an output component.

40.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, the ~~input~~ <u>at least one indicator</u> is received from an external source on one of a periodic basis, a continuous basis and a one-time basis.

41.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, the ~~input~~ <u>at least one indicator</u> is at least one of a status indicator and an event indicator.

42.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, the indicator is at least one of a message connection health indicator, an I/O error indicator, a run/idle indicator, a network error indicator, an I/O point fault indicator, a hardware input indicator, a hardware output indicator, an I/O data indicator, and an output device status indicator.

43.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, the function block is one of a Boolean operator, a flip-flop, a counter, a timer and an analog function.

44.   (Currently Amended) A system that provides an output, comprising:
        means for receiving information regarding associated logical function and status/event indicator components;
        means for determining the status of the associated logical function and status/event indicator components;
        means for selecting an output based on the information received; and
        means for broadcasting an output signal from an output component.